

Appl. No. 10/618,060
Amdt. dated December 6, 2005
Reply to Office Action of June 6, 2005

PATENT

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-15 were pending. In the present response, the Applicant have cancelled claims 6-8, leaving claims 1-5 and 9-15 pending in the present application for the Examiner's consideration. No new matter has been added.

In summary of the Office Action of June 6, 2005, the Examiner has rejected claims 1-15 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Gemelli et al. (U.S. Patent Application No. 2003/0101307). Applicant respectfully traverse the Examiner's rejections.

I. Rejection of Claims 1-5 and 9-15 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-5 as anticipated by Gemelli. Claim 1, as amended, recites in part:

automatically defining an allowable set of such parameter values in dependence upon the plurality of system components, wherein the allowable set of parameter values includes at least one common parameter value from the respective functional representations of at least two of the plurality of components.

The Applicant respectfully submits that the cited reference does not disclose or suggest at least this claim element.

Gemelli discloses "a distributed interface between a microprocessor, or a standard bus, and user macro-cells belonging to an ASIC, or FPGA, or similar silicon devices The interface consists of a main module connected to the microprocessor bus, at one side, and to a COMMON-BUS inside the interface on which a cluster of peripheral modules is appended, at the other side." (Gemelli, Abstract). "The distributed interface of the present invention made up by DMI MAIN and DMI PERIPHERALs macro-cells, simplifies noticeably the job of providing user macro-cells with these signals." (Gemelli, [0162]). As illustrated by Figure 9 of Gemelli, each cluster of macro-cells requires a "DMI Peripheral" to connect with the "COMMON-BUS."

According to Gemelli, "the distributed microprocessor interface of the present invention has a great impact on the design of user macro-cells. In fact having removed from the macro-cell

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the majority of hardware resources related to configuration, control, transmission and/or reception of stream data flows to/from an external standard bus, a new "bare" macro-cell basic architecture results." (Gemelli, [0091]; See also [0242]).

According to Gemelli, "the development and interfacing of user macro-cells is made easier and accelerated by having removed from the macro-cell all hardware primitives and resources related to configuration and control and transmission and/or reception of stream data flows to/from an external standard bus. Having removed all said resources from the macro-cell the designer can concentrate only on the macro-cell function (the application)." (Gemelli, [0248]). "A first great advantage evident at glance in FIGS. 18 to 23 is that user macro-cells are totally discharged from the embedding of any gender of synchronization circuitry. This is a further goal in the direction to obtain bare macro-cells deprived of any interfacing jobs." (Gemelli, [0462]).

Thus, Gemelli teaches that the direct interfaces between macro-cells should be removed, and that "DMI Peripherals" should be used instead to provide macro-cell to macro-cell communication.

In contrast, claim 1 calls for "automatically defining an allowable set of such parameter values in dependence upon the plurality of system components, wherein the allowable set of parameter values includes at least one common parameter value." Unlike Gemelli, claim 1 does not call for removing the direct interfaces between macro-cells and replacing them with peripherals to facilitate communication. Instead, claim 1 calls for automatically defining at least one parameter value for the system components that is common (that is, shared by) at least two of the system components. Gemelli does not disclose two or more system components having a common, or shared, parameters, because Gemelli replaces all direct macro-cell to macro cell interfaces with interfaces through additional "DMI" peripherals. Thus, Gemelli does not disclose at least the cited element of claim 1.

Because Gemelli does not disclose or suggest all of the elements of claim 1, the Applicant respectfully submits that claim 1 and its dependent claims 2-5 are patentable over Gemelli. Claim 9 recites similar elements as claim 1, and thus the Applicant

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respectfully submits that claim 9 and its dependent claims 10-15 are patentable over Gemelli for similar reasons.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicant believes all claims now pending in this Application are patentable and in condition for allowance and respectfully request an action to that end.

The Applicant invites the Examiner to contact the undersigned if he believes a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date


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